



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
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November 7, 2008

Melinda B. Livingston, State Examiner
Office of the State Examiner
8550 United Plaza Boulevard, Suite 901
Baton Rouge, LA 70809-2296

RE: Ethics Board Docket No. 2008-715

Dear Ms. Livingston:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its October 27, 2008 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion regarding whether members of local fire and police civil service boards are required to file financial disclosure reports in accordance with Section 1124.2.1 of the Code of Governmental Ethics. The civil service boards were created and operate under LSA - R.S. 33:2471 *et seq.* You state that you are unaware of any civil service board that has been given unilateral authority by the municipal, parish or fire protection district governing authority to expend, disburse or invest ten thousand dollars or more in funds and that to your knowledge all expenses incurred by boards are paid directly by the governing authorities of the boards.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to advise you, that based on the information provided that the boards do not have the authority to expend, disburse or invest ten thousand dollars or more in funds and that all expenses incurred by the board are paid directly by the governing authorities of the board, the members of civil service boards are not required to file financial disclosure reports. Each member and any designee of a member of a board or commission that has the authority to expend, disburse, or invest ten thousand dollars or more of funds in a fiscal year is required to file financial disclosure statements in accordance with Section 1124.2.1 of the Code. Provided that a civil service board has not been given the authority to expend, disburse, or invest ten thousand dollars or more of funds in a fiscal year, the board members are not required to file financial disclosure statements. However, if an individual civil service board has the authority to expend, disburse or invest ten thousand dollars or more in funds in a fiscal year then the members of that board will be required to file financial disclosure statements under Section 1124.2.1 of the Code.

The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or laws other than the Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (225) 763-8777 or (800) 842-6630.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Alesia M. Ardoin
For the Board

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